Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"I have certainly no objection, Mr. President, to agree to the principle underlying the amendment. I agree that, as far as possible, in sending out these persons who will have to go by reason of the reduction of staff, the principles of the Government Order governing retrenchment might be applied. But, I think, the words 'subject to such directions as may be issued by the Local Government' occurring in my amendment should be retained. I should also not be able to agree to the last two lines, viz., 'so long as such persons desirous of such preference are available and continue to be qualified and suitable for the posts' being deleted. I am not also able to agree to the control which the Government would retain under this, because, whatever proposals might emanate, it is best for the Government to accept one policy for the whole Province and give detailed instructions. I know it will be difficult to work out details for every district, but I think the situation requires one controlling and central authority who will issue specific instructions to govern every case in every district. And if Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder agrees to that, I would be only too glad to accept his amendment."

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Am I to speak on the amendment of Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder or on both the amendments, Sir?"

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"On both the amendments if he pleases. Or if the Hon. the Minister wishes to speak after lunch, he may do so." 1-15 p.m.

The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—"Yes, I shall speak after lunch."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The House will now adjourn and reassemble after lunch at 2-30 p.m."

After Lunch (2-30 p.m.)

II.—AMENDMENTS TO STANDING ORDER No. 80 OF THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have to announce that the following candidates have been duly nominated for election to the Select Committee to amend Standing Order No. 80:—

(1) Dr. P. Subbarayan.
(2) Mr. K. P. Raman Menon.
(3) Mr. J. K. Metherell.
(4) The Hon. the Raja of Bobbili.
(5) The Hon. Khan Bahadur Sir Mahomed Usman Sahib Bahadur.
(6) Rao Bahadur C. Natesa Mudaliyar.

"As the number of candidates nominated for election is equal to the number of vacancies to be filled, namely, six, I hereby declare the abovementioned members to be duly elected under Regulation II (4) of the regulations for the holding of elections by means of the single transferable vote.

[The President] [1st March 1934

" I nominate Mr. M. A. Muthiah Chettiyar, Kumararaja of Chettinad, a Member of the Panel of Chairmen, to be a member of the Select Committee."

III.—A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS LOCAL BOARDS ACT, 1920, AND THE MADRAS ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT, 1920 (BILL No. 2 OF 1934).

THE SCHEDULE.

Transitory Provisions.

Rule 8.

Diwan Bahadur A. APPADURAI PILLAI:—" Mr. President, Sir, rule 8 of the Transitory Provision as amended by Mr. Pannirselvam and Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder makes the matter rather complicated. The amended rule runs thus: ' The officers and servants of the taluk and district boards in each district, shall, at the commencement of this Act, be deemed to belong to a single district establishment for the purpose of fixing, under the provisions of sub-section (3) of section 67 of this Act, the number, designations and grades of the officers and servants of the district board or boards reconstituted in each district ' and

" From this portion onwards we follow Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder's amendment: ' and then, if necessary retrenchment may be made in accordance with the principles laid down in G.O. No. 486, Public (Services), dated 31st March 1932, and allowing concessions as laid down in G.O. No. 124, Finance (Pension), dated 24th March 1932. The persons thrown out of employment shall ' (here we again come to Mr. Pannirselvam's amendment) ' have preference in future appointments under the district and panchayat boards ' (here Mr. Nachiyappa Gounder stops but Mr. Pannirselvam wants to add the following also) ' subject to such directions as may be issued by the Local Government.'

" Having read this, I am really at a loss to know where we really stand. On the other hand, the provision made in the Bill is clear cut, and it provides for all the grades of local board service. Rule 8 as embodied in the amending Bill and as accepted by the Select Committee with a slight alteration makes the matter clear and provides for all the contingencies contemplated with reference to the abolition of taluk boards and the disbandment of their staff. I request I may not be misunderstood when I speak on this matter as though I am in any way prejudicial or opposed or unsympathetic to the interests of the taluk board staff. Far from it, my sympathies are entirely with them. It is a pity that after a long period of service some of the hard-worked staff should be disbanded. It is really doing them injury, and so it behoves this House to do all it can to devise ways and means to somehow or other alleviate their distress. The proposal put forward by Mr. Pannirselvam to drag in the district board people also to the taluk board people and make them suffer equally, because they also belong to the same service, namely, the local board service, is not an argument that would appeal to several of us here as sound and correct. For the fact remains that it is the taluk boards that have been affected